

Training Materials and Information Resources on Disasters



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World Health Organization

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Catalog 2002

Pan American Health Organization
Regional Office of the
World Health Organization

**Publications and
information sources
on emergencies and disasters**

2002 Catalog



Pan American Health Organization
Regional Office of the
World Health Organization

Program on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief

www.paho.org/disasters

Washington, D.C. 2002

Program on Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief

Pan American Health Organization,
Regional Office of the
World Health Organization

In 1976, PAHO established the Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief Coordination Program in response to requests of the Member Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean to create a technical program to help the health sector strengthen disaster preparedness, response, and mitigation activities.

Since its creation, the Program's main objective has been to assist the Region's health sector to strengthen national programs for disaster reduction and to support interaction with other sectors involved in disaster reduction. Three principal areas have been strengthened through this support: disaster preparedness; disaster mitigation; and disaster response.

In addition to the ongoing promotion of disaster preparedness programs within the ministries of health, training activities (accomplished through hundreds of classes and workshops), and the development and distribution of training materials (books, slides, and videos) are regular activities of the Program.

The area of disaster mitigation is particularly important, since investment in disaster preparedness is futile if a hospital, health center, or drinking water system fail in a disaster situation, just when these lifelines are most needed. PAHO supports and promotes the inclusion of mitigation activities in national disaster reduction programs.

In the area of disaster response, PAHO works with affected countries to identify and assess damage and needs, carry out epidemiologic surveillance and inspection of drinking water supplies, mobilize international humanitarian assistance, and manage humanitarian supplies. PAHO has established the Voluntary Emergency Relief Fund, which collects money for post-disaster activities.

The Program has also invested in a number of special technical projects such as Disaster Mitigation in Hospitals and Drinking Water Systems; Humanitarian Supply Management Systems (SUMA); Use of the Internet for Disasters and Emergencies; and the Regional Disaster Information Center (CRID).

The publication of this catalog has been made possible thanks to the financial support of the Division of International Humanitarian Assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency (IHA/CIDA), the Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance of the U.S. Agency for International Development (OFDA/USAID), the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom (DFID), and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

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Cover photos: PAHO/WHO

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Our readers have waited for a new catalog that would gather all of the technical information available from PAHO in the area of emergencies and disasters. We are pleased to be able to offer this catalog and hope that it will inform and save time for those interested in this topic.

It is simple to print a catalog. The more difficult task is to respond to the demand for information and to be flexible and innovative in ensuring that all of this material can reach interested parties when it is needed. This is our main objective.

The production of publications and training materials continues to be an essential aspect of the work of the Emergency Preparedness Program at PAHO and this catalog is an illustration of this commitment. Older publications have been updated and many new titles have been added to meet the needs of our audience.

Publication methods are changing. We will not abandon traditional print publications, but recognize that electronic publishing is a valuable complement to printed documents for our readers. All of our new publications are immediately published on the Web. We also have invested time and resources in producing CD-ROMs because they are an excellent storage tool, easy to use, and are inexpensive to distribute.

Internet use is growing rapidly in Latin America and the Caribbean. The Internet provides us with the opportunity not only to make our documents available on-line, but is a tool for information exchange and finding other resources. This catalog gives an overview of the most important PAHO Web pages on disasters.

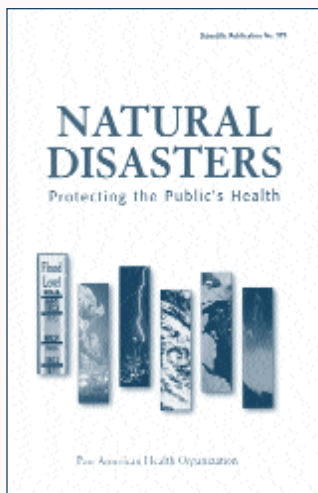
This catalog also lists other tools that use information and technology such as SUMA (the Humanitarian Supply Management System), CRID (the Regional Disaster Information Center) and the electronic Virtual Health Library for Disasters.

We want to provide every opportunity for those who are interested to obtain this material. You will find a list of the Emergency Preparedness Program offices and PAHO/WHO offices in the Region as well as the office of Publications and Editorial Services of PAHO.

Finally, we would like to know whether the materials are useful, and whether you have been able to access the material we list here. Please e-mail your comments to disaster-publications@paho.org or write directly to our office.

Dr. Claude de Ville de Goyet,
Chief, Program on Emergency Preparedness
and Disaster Relief, PAHO





**Natural Disasters:
Protecting the Public's Health**
2000, 130 pp., ISBN 92 75 11575 3
Price: US\$22/US\$18 in developing countries
Available in English and Spanish

"... very well written, clearly presented, and well documented—
an excellent addition to the literature on natural disasters and a
'must have' resource for individuals involved in disaster
preparedness. I highly recommend it."
FIVE STARS
—David Prichard, PhD (University of New England), Doody
Reviews

This is one of the main references about the important role
that the health sector can and should play in reducing the impact
of disasters. It aims to assist health sector administrators to make effective decisions on
preparedness, mitigation and response to disasters. It describes the overall effects of disasters on
health, highlighting myths and realities, and summarizes how the health sector must organize
itself to cope with disasters. The book emphasizes the multisectoral nature of disaster preparedness
and provides guidelines for preparing health sector disaster plans, means of coordination, special
technical programs in anticipation of disaster situations, management of humanitarian supplies,
and keys to understanding the world of international humanitarian assistance.
The book is aimed primarily at health sector professionals who are involved in disaster
preparedness, mitigation, and response. However, since disaster management is an intersectoral
undertaking, any person interested in the topic will find the book to be a valuable guide. This is
an excellent resource for students and professors of public health.

Contents

1. General Effects of Disasters on Health
 2. Structuring Health Disaster Management
 3. Disaster Preparedness
 4. Disaster Mitigation in the Health Sector
 5. Coordination of Disaster Response Activities
 6. Mass Casualty Management
 7. Epidemiologic Surveillance and Disease Control
 8. Environmental Health Management
 9. Food and Nutrition
 10. Planning, Layout, and Management of Temporary Settlements and Camps
 11. Communications and Transport
 12. Managing Humanitarian Relief Supplies
 13. International Humanitarian Assistance
 14. Reestablishing Normal Health Programs
- Annexes
Selected Bibliography and On-line Information Sources

View this book on the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/sp575.htm

Impacto de los desastres en la salud pública

Eric K. Noji (Editor)
2000, 461 p., ISBN 92 75 32332 1
Price: US \$25
Available only in Spanish

"...very well documented; provides excellent
information on the causes, history, frequency, duration and
consequences of the largest and most frequently occurring
disasters in the world. A book that will be very useful in the library
of anyone involved in the area of disasters." —James L. Mills, Jr.,
International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters, (Nov.
1998, Vol. 16, No. 3, Pp. 375-76)

Natural disasters—including earthquakes, floods,
volcanic eruptions, hurricanes, and others—have claimed millions
of lives in the past 20 years. Not a day passes without a disaster
occurring in some part of the world. Increased populations in
flood plains, along vulnerable coastal areas, and near geologic faults and the rapid industrialization
of developing countries are factors that increase the threat of natural and technological disasters.

This book was first published in English by Oxford University Press in 1997 (The Public
Health Consequences of Disasters) and was translated into Spanish by PAHO. It presents pertinent
and useful information about the public health impact of disasters. It covers in depth the causes of
disasters and their impact on public health and stresses the importance of epidemiology as a tool
in guiding policies of prevention, surveillance and disaster response.

The authors, many of whom are associated with the Centers for Disease Control in the
United States, have had extensive experience in the field, and are able to provide technical
information and examples about major disasters (including natural disasters and complex
emergencies) and conclusions based on epidemiologic evidence about the effects of natural
disasters on public health. Special attention is given to prevention and control measures that are
useful to public health personnel.

This book is an essential reference for epidemiologists and all health professionals who
have to make decisions regarding disaster preparedness and response.



Contents

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Introduction | 12. Tornadoes |
| 2. The Nature of Disaster: General Characteristics and Public Health Effects | 13. Heat Waves and Hot Environments |
| 3. The use of Epidemiologic Methods in Disasters | 14. Cold Environments |
| 4. Surveillance and Epidemiology | 15. Floods |
| 5. Managing the Environmental Health Aspects of Disasters: Water, Human Excreta, and Shelter | 16. Famine |
| 6. Communicable Diseases and Disease Control | 17. Air Pollution |
| 7. Mental Health Consequences of Disasters | 18. Industrial Disasters |
| 8. Effective Media Relations | 19. Fires |
| 9. Earthquakes | 20. Nuclear Reactor Incidents |
| 10. Volcanoes | 21. Complex Emergencies: Refugee and Other Populations |
| 11. Tropical Cyclones | |

View this book on the Internet at: www.paho.org/Spanish/PED/impacto.htm





Humanitarian Supply Management and Logistics in the Health Sector

2001, 188 p., ISBN 92 75 12375 6

Price: US\$ 22

Available in English and Spanish

This manual provides clear and practical guidelines on basic aspects of the logistics of humanitarian supply management. It describes proper handling of supplies at each level of the logistics "chain". Some of the procedures are based on standards adopted by international organizations involved in disaster response, but others are the product of experience gained in the field.

While this manual does not attempt to cover all aspects of supply management, the techniques and processes outlined are standards of action that can be applied in many emergency operations.

The manual is written for people involved in humanitarian supply management, especially in emergency situations, whether working for governmental departments or nongovernmental organizations. Experts in the topic can use the manual as a reference, and those wanting to learn more about supply management logistics will find a systematic treatment of the most important issues.

Contents

Chapter 1	The Context
Chapter 2	Logistics
Chapter 3	Assessing Logistical and Supply Needs
Chapter 4	Coordination
Chapter 5	Key Characteristics of Emergency Supplies
Chapter 6	Procurement
Chapter 7	Receiving Supplies
Chapter 8	Record-Keeping, Control, and Monitoring of Supplies
Chapter 9	Storage
Chapter 10	Transport
Chapter 11	Distribution
Chapter 12	Managing Medical Supplies
Chapter 13	Transparency and Information in Emergency Supply Management
Chapter 14	Telecommunications
Chapter 15	Application of New Technologies to Emergency Logistics
Bibliography	

For more information on humanitarian supply management see the section on SUMA (page 38).

View this book on the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/supplies.htm

Principles of Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities

Mitigation Series

2000, 133 pp. ISBN 97 75 12304 7

Price US\$ 22

Available in English and Spanish

In this book, the reader will find an updated version of several publications already published by PAHO on disaster mitigation in health facilities. Sections of previous publications have been revised to address the needs of professionals from a variety of disciplines. Figures and photographs illustrate situations that can increase disaster vulnerability. Examples are given of how countries in Latin America have conducted vulnerability assessments and applied specific disaster mitigation measures in their hospitals and health centers.

This book introduces the essential aspects of carrying out vulnerability assessments and applying practical measures to mitigate damage in hospitals, addressing structural and nonstructural aspects, as well as administrative and internal organization. It is directed to a broad audience of those involved in the planning, operation, maintenance and patient care in health services. It does not attempt to address the more technical and specialized aspects of disaster mitigation, and it focuses primarily on the effect of seismic hazards on health facilities.



Contents

Chapter 1	Disasters and Hospitals Damage to Hospitals Hospitals and Disaster Situations Risk Reduction in Hospitals
Chapter 2	Structural Vulnerability Structural Damage Architectural and Structural Configuration Problems Seismic-resistant Design Analysis of Structural Vulnerability Measures to Reduce Structural Vulnerability Retrofitting and Repair
Chapter 3	Nonstructural Vulnerability Nonstructural Elements Methods of Analysis Reducing Nonstructural Vulnerability
Chapter 4	Administrative and Organizational Vulnerability Administrative Aspects External Emergencies Internal Emergencies
Annex	Methods for the Analysis of Structural Vulnerability

View this book on the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/fundaeng.htm

See page 9 for other books on disaster mitigation.





**SOON TO BE
PUBLISHED**

Lluvias en Venezuela, Diciembre 1999

Crónicas de desastres No. 10

This is the account of one of the worst disasters to occur in Venezuela's history. The combination of intense rainfall and major rock- and mudslides had a devastating impact on northern states of the country. This report details the events and analyzes health aspects of the emergency and damage sustained by health facilities.

Terremotos en El Salvador, 2001

Crónicas de desastres No. 11

During January and February 2001, El Salvador suffered a "seismic crisis" with two major earthquakes that were catastrophic for that country's population, infrastructure, basic services, production, and environment. This book relates the events, focusing on impacts on the health sector and how the sector responded.

Fenómeno el Niño 1997-1998

Crónicas de desastres No. 8

2000, 294 p., ISBN 92 75 32318 6

Price: US\$ 20

Available in Spanish only

This book was published to document the experiences and lessons learned during the 1997-1998 El Niño phenomenon. It provides a technical and institutional retrospective of the impact of El Niño on the health sector and shows how profoundly it affected the lives and public health in nearly all countries of Latin America. Its duration and severity caused tremendous losses requiring immense investments in response and reconstruction, and an unprecedented institutional response.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/ped/EINino.htm

Huracanes Georges y Mitch

Crónicas de desastres No. 7

1999, 400 p., ISBN 92 75 32277 5

Price: US\$ 20

Available in Spanish only

This is the account of two of the most devastating hurricanes to occur in recent history. Striking in September and October 1998, they had major impacts for the populations of the Caribbean and Central America. Eight national reports and various annexes document the events and analyze the impacts and response of the health sector in the most seriously affected countries.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/ped/ped-chronicle7.htm

El terremoto de Cariaco, Venezuela

Crónicas de desastres No. 6

1999, 57 p., ISBN 9978 40 863 0

Precio: US\$ 10

Available in Spanish only

In July 1997, a major earthquake hit the Venezuelan state of Sucre. This report reconstructs the events and describes the impact on and response of local and national health authorities. It is an example of how disaster managers cope in a sudden-onset disaster.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/ped/cronispa.htm



El terremoto de Aiquile-Cochabamba, Bolivia

Crónicas de desastres No. 9

2000, 101 p., ISBN 9978 41 368 5

Precio: US\$ 10

Available in Spanish only

In May 1998, Bolivia was hit by one of the most severe earthquakes in that country's recent history, presenting a major challenge to authorities in charge of response and rehabilitation in the affected areas. This recounts events during the initial impact of the earthquake, relief efforts, and the early phases of reconstruction from the perspective of the health sector. The report highlights innovations developed in the area of environmental health.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/ped/cronica-bolivia.htm



Earthquake in Mexico

Disaster Reports, No.3

1985, 96 p.,

Precio: US\$ 10

Available in Spanish and English

This is a collection of articles on different aspects affecting the health sector following the earthquake that hit Mexico City in September 1985, leaving thousands of people dead. The articles review the magnitude of the disaster, the immediate response, activities in the areas of preventive medicine and public health, international assistance, and finally, lessons learned. The report includes an annex with a study on the survival of people in collapsed buildings.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net





The Effects of Hurricane David on the Population of Dominica

Disaster Reports No. 1

1979, 60 p.,

Price: US\$ 10

Available only in English

This report evaluates how the people of Dominica were affected by Hurricane David, which hit the Caribbean on 29 August 1979. It analyzes the impact of the hurricane on housing, agriculture, employment, food supply, etc., and examines the reconstruction process. The authors give special emphasis to health problems (injuries and illness, medical treatment, communicable diseases, and the impact on pregnant women). It presents a series of conclusions and lessons learned.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Jamaica, St. Vincent and Dominica

Disaster Reports No. 2

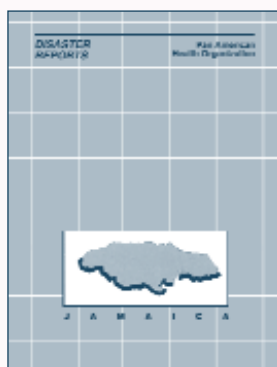
1979, 93 p.,

Price: US\$ 10

Available only in English

In 1979, the Caribbean was hit by three consecutive disasters. In April, the Soufriere Volcano erupted, forcing the authorities on the island of St. Vincent to resettle nearly 20% of the population to the already densely inhabited southern section of the island. In July, floods caused major damage to Jamaica, and in September, Dominica suffered major damage as a result of Hurricane David. This report provides an overview of the most serious health aspects of these disasters, giving special emphasis to epidemiologic surveillance and the control of communicable diseases following disasters.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Hurricane Gilbert, Jamaica

Disaster Reports No. 5

1988, 44 p.,

Price: US\$ 10

Available only in English

Hurricane Gilbert, which hit Jamaica in September 1988, caused widespread devastation, not least of which was the damage sustained by some 90% of the islands health facilities. This report describes preparedness and response activities carried out by the health sector, the health surveillance system adopted, and the situation in temporary shelters. It summarizes lessons learned in this disaster, and is of value for those having to face emergency situations in the future.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net

CD-ROM Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities

2001 Edition

Price: US\$ 40

Available in English and Spanish



Over the last several years, PAHO has published many documents and audio-visual materials on disaster reduction. Despite the advances made, it is important to stress that it is of little use to invest in preparedness, response, or reconstruction of health facilities, if vulnerability factors, and especially the necessary mitigation measures, are not addressed.

This CD-ROM, which performs as a simple Web page, is a collection of the available training materials that will help to promote and apply mitigation measures in health facilities. The disk contains:

- Two PowerPoint presentations about structural and nonstructural aspects of disaster mitigation;
- A series of posters on disaster mitigation in hospitals;
- Eleven publications (in English and Spanish).

The disk is recommended for use on a PC with at least a Pentium I processor or its equivalent, and a 40 MB hard drive.

Principles of Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities 1999, 128 p., ISBN 92 75 12304 7

Price: US\$ 22

Available in English and Spanish

This book is an updated version of several publications already published by PAHO on disaster mitigation in health facilities.

It introduces the essential aspects of carrying out vulnerability assessments and applying practical measures to mitigate damage in hospitals, and addresses structural and nonstructural aspects, as well as administrative and internal hospital organization. Numerous examples are given of how countries in Latin America have applied specific disaster mitigation measures in their hospitals and health centers. It is directed to a broad audience of those involved in the planning, operation, maintenance and patient care in health services. (See more about this book on page 5.)

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/fundaeng.htm



Disaster Mitigation for Health Facilities Guidelines for Vulnerability Appraisal and Reduction in the Caribbean

2000, 65 p., ISBN 976 8078 00 6

Price: US\$ 10

Available in English

These guidelines outline hazard vulnerability analysis and disaster mitigation measures necessary for health facilities in the Caribbean. Written for a general audience, this book is useful for health personnel working in hospitals and health centers.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net





Mitigation: Disaster Mitigation Guidelines for Hospitals and other Health Care Facilities in the Caribbean

1992, 85 p.,
Price: US\$ 18

Available only in English

This manual is the first that PAHO published on the topic of disaster mitigation in health facilities. It presents basic concepts about mitigation and examines technical aspects of carrying out disaster mitigation activities in hospitals, with the aim of reducing vulnerability and limiting damage caused by natural disasters, particularly earthquakes and hurricanes.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



International Conference on Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities: Recommendations.

Mexico, D.F. 26 - 28 de february de 1996
32 p., PAHO/PED 96.48

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

Recommendations from the meeting organized by PAHO/WUO at the request of the Mexican government. They reflect the commitment of governments, institutions and individuals to promote and include mitigation in disaster reduction programs.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/PED/mitrecs.htm



Análisis de riesgo en el diseño de hospitales en zonas sísmicas

1989, 213 p.,
Price:US\$ 18

Available only in Spanish

To ensure that hospitals maintain their operational capacity during and after earthquakes, it is necessary to reduce their vulnerability. The publication presents the views of experts in hazard reduction, gives examples and experiences from Latin America, and includes recommendations for carrying out mitigation measures.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Lecciones aprendidas en América Latina de mitigación de desastres en instalaciones de salud:

Aspectos de costo efectividad

1997, 116 p., ISBN 92 75 32217 1

Price: US\$ 22

Available only in Spanish

This book analyzes the important cost/benefit relationship in applying mitigation measures to reduce the effect of disasters in hospitals and health centers. It highlights the experience of specific hospitals in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is a book of special interest for health sector administrators.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/Spanish/PED/leccispa.htm

Natural Disaster Mitigation in Drinking Water and Sewerage Systems: Guidelines for Vulnerability Analysis

2000, 110 p., ISBN 92 75 12250 4

Price: US\$ 22

Available in English and Spanish

Vulnerability analysis provides a simple approach to evaluating hazards and risks to components of drinking water and sewerage systems. It is a method for defining mitigation measures and emergency procedures should damage occur as a result of a natural disaster. This book is written for engineers and technical personnel working with water authorities.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/natureng.htm



Manual para la mitigación de desastres naturales en sistemas rurales de agua potable

2000, 96 p., ISBN 92 75 32341 0

Price: US\$ 18

Available only in Spanish

Damage to water and sanitation systems in rural areas as a consequence of disasters often results in the suspension of these critical services. This compounds the effects of economic losses and poorly organized disaster response in rural areas, increasing hazards to the health and general well-being of affected communities. This publication focuses on particular aspects of disaster mitigation for water and sewerage systems serving rural areas, and is of interest to administrators and technical personnel of water authorities.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/ped/manuaspa.htm



Emergencias y desastres en sistemas de agua potable y saneamiento

Guía para una respuesta eficaz

2001, 97p, ISBN 92 75 32367 4

Price: US\$ 18

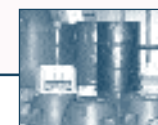
Available only in Spanish

PAHO and the Inter-American Association of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (AIDIS) joined forces in publishing these practical guidelines on developing emergency and disaster plans for drinking water and sewerage systems. It updates other PAHO documents on this topic, and is an important companion text to Natural Disaster Mitigation in Drinking Water and Sewerage Systems: Guidelines for Vulnerability Analysis, published by PAHO in 1998. The book was written for managers, planners and designers as well as operations and maintenance personnel working with water and sanitation systems.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/ped/agua.htm



New
Soon to be published
in English





Administración de emergencias en salud ambiental y provisión de agua

Cuaderno técnico No 17
1988, 38p., ISBN 92 75 330174
Price: US\$ 8

Available only in Spanish

This report presents disaster preparedness and mitigation methods for environmental health and water supply systems, and focuses in particular on earthquakes and floods. It will be helpful for anyone working in this field in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The topics covered are emergency management, planning, vulnerability analysis, prevention measures, preparedness for floods and earthquakes, and environmental health and control of water quality in temporary shelters and settlements

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



El agua en situaciones de emergencia

Serie "Autoridades locales, medio ambiente y sanidad".
1999, 25 p., OPS/HEP/99/34
Price: US\$ 10

Available only in Spanish

Poor sanitation conditions following disasters present extremely serious consequences for the affected population, and cause even more long-term suffering than the actual event. This document presents guidelines for measures that local authorities can take to reduce the risks and mitigate damages caused by disasters in water supply systems. When such measures are taken quickly and effectively, there will be less damage.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/hep/hes/vtremrgs.pdf



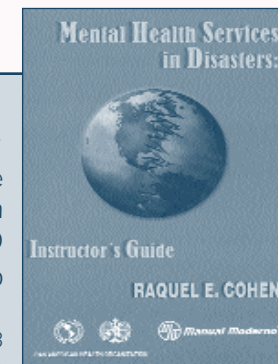
Aprendiendo a vivir con el volcán, protegemos nuestra salud

2000, 8p.,

Available only in Spanish

This brochure presents practical recommendations for communities to mitigate the effects of volcanic eruptions on drinking water and sanitation systems. Colorful drawings and simple, instructive text emphasize the importance of protecting oneself from ash, and shows how to protect public water supplies from contamination, and how to disinfect water in the home.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/spanish/ped/cartilla.pdf



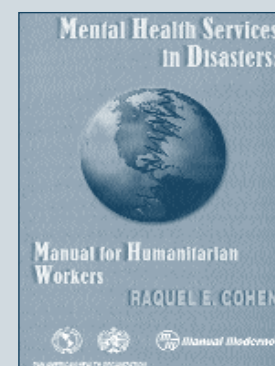
Mental Health Services in Disasters:

Instructor's Guide
Raquel E. Cohen

Joint publication of PAHO/WHO
and Editorial El Manual moderno
1999, 148 p., ISBN 92 75 12274 1

Price: US\$ 18

Available in English and Spanish



Mental Health Services in Disasters:

Manual for Humanitarian Workers
Raquel E. Cohen

Joint publication of PAHO/WHO
and Editorial El Manual Moderno
1999, 75 p., ISBN 92 75 12273 3

Price: US\$ 18

Available in English and Spanish

Mental health care for disaster victims is, perhaps, one of the areas given the least attention when there are so many pressing public health concerns following a disaster. These companion manuals contain up-to-date information about this field and emphasize crucial aspects in the management of different disaster victims, with special attention to the most vulnerable. The author, Dr. Raquel Cohen, is a leading expert in this field, and developed the manuals to create and carry out training courses on the subject. The manuals are written for humanitarian workers who are dealing with psychosocial aspects of emergency situations and for instructors charged with training relief workers. They are designed to be flexible, easily translated into different languages, and adapted to the customs of different regions.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net

Juntos protegemos nuestra salud mental ante los desastres

2000, 8p.,

Available only in Spanish

This brochure, with drawings and instructive text, is based on community support activities carried out by the Ecuadoran Red Cross in areas affected by volcanic eruptions. It emphasizes the importance of community organization in alleviating psychological and social consequences of disasters through dialogue, communication, and respect for the feelings and losses experienced by other members of the community.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net





Análisis descriptivo de los relatos escritos de una población afectada por un desastre

1986, 56 p.

Price: US\$ 8

Available only in Spanish

This study is based on individual accounts of 132 persons directly affected by the earthquake that hit Mexico City in September 1985. The narratives describe what the survivors went through during the event as well as how they felt when relating their stories. The objective of the study is to obtain more knowledge about the reactions of individuals and society in general to disasters, and to gain insight into the Mexican people, in particular, in the aftermath of one of the most devastating events in their history.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net

The Role of Laboratories and Blood Banks in Disaster Situations

2001, 28 p., ISBN 92 75 32380 1

Price: US\$ 10

Available only in Spanish

Laboratories serving national public health systems, clinical laboratories and blood banks should always be included in the health sector's emergency plans for disaster situations. This book is written for health authorities and directors and technical personnel in laboratories and blood banks. It provides guidelines for identifying the responsibilities and functions of these services when faced with disaster situations, taking into consideration priorities, needs, and the capacity for immediate disaster response at the local level.

On the Internet at:

www.paho.org/spanish/hsp/hse/laboratorios.htm



New

Soon to be published in English

Insights into the concept of stress

2001, 78 p., ISBN 92 75 12359 4

Price: US\$ 16

Available only in English

On the Internet at:

www.paho.org/english/ped/stressin.htm



New



Stress Management in Disasters

2001, 134 p., ISBN 92 75 12358 6

Price: US\$ 16

Available only in English

On the Internet at:

www.paho.org/english/ped/stressmgn.htm

These companion workbooks were developed by the Stress Management in Disasters in the Caribbean Program (SMID) to assist emergency response personnel to better understand, recognize and manage their emotional response to traumatic situations. They include information on principles of crisis intervention and exercises that can be used in class or workshop settings.

New

SUMA: The PAHO/WHO System for Supply Management

2001, 8 p, ISBN 92 75 12344 6

Available in English and Spanish

The enormous numbers of donations sent to countries hit by major disasters often overwhelm national authorities, causing logistical and administrative nightmares. SUMA is a supply management system that attempts to make order out of the chaos caused by poorly coordinated humanitarian assistance efforts. This brochure outlines the way SUMA works and gives some history of the project, as well as prospects for its future.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/suma.htm



New

Humanitarian Assistance in Disaster Situations

A Guide for Effective Aid

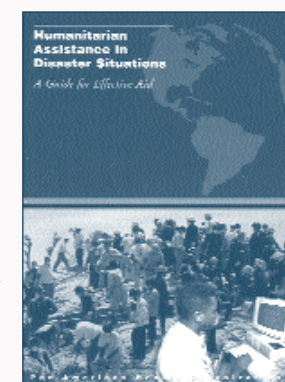
1999, 20 p., ISBN 92 75 12301 2

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

This publication provides practical advice and recommendations for donors and recipients of humanitarian assistance. Its aim is to ensure that such aid provides the greatest benefit to people affected by natural or complex disasters. One of the main principles is that humanitarian assistance should always be based on an assessment of the real needs of the populations. The booklet is an updated version of several publications produced by PAHO on this topic in the past 15 years.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/pedhum.htm





Epidemiologic Surveillance after Natural Disasters

PAHO Scientific Publication No. 420

1989, 100 p., ISBN 92 75 31420 X

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

This book summarizes the scientific basis and experience in surveillance and control of communicable diseases following a disaster. It covers the potential for disease outbreaks, the establishment of surveillance systems, operational aspects of disease surveillance, and environmental health management activities. This manual will be of use for technical personnel involved in disaster response and mitigation activities, epidemiologists, specialists in disease control, sanitary engineers, and physicians.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Environmental Health Management after Natural Disasters

PAHO Scientific Publication No. 430

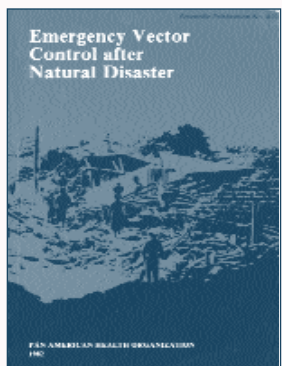
1983, 60 p., ISBN 92 75 11430 7

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

This book is recommended for those responsible for planning and executing environmental sanitation measures following disasters. It outlines the impact that different types of natural disasters may have on environmental health and identifies areas that should be addressed both in anticipation of disasters and during an event. It also includes information on the repair and restoration of basic services. Annexes describe how to prepare an emergency plan for environmental health operations; measures for restoring safe sanitation conditions, including necessary measures to be taken after populations are evacuated; environmental health issues in temporary settlements and camps; and guidelines on the use of different types of water disinfectants.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Emergency Vector Control after Natural Disasters

PAHO Scientific Publication No. 419

1982, 114 p., ISBN 92 75 11419 7

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

This publication provides guidelines on the prevention of vector-borne diseases after natural disasters, and will be of interest to senior technical officers responsible for emergency response management and readers with a background in public health. The book focuses on surveillance and control activities prior to disasters, and measures to be taken during and immediately following an event. It also includes information and techniques for the control of specific vectors, such as *Aedes aegypti*, anophelines, flies, rodents, etc.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net

Health Services Organization in the Event of Disaster

PAHO Scientific Publication No. 443

1983, 121p., ISBN 92 75 11443 9

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

However timely the health sectors response to a disaster may be, its effect may be cancelled out if the effort is disorganized or fragmented. This manual presents parameters for a tiered system of health care and appropriate techniques for coordinated and rational response. Aimed at the physician, the paramedic, and the health administrator, this manual provides general guidelines for the organization of health services and standards for treating mass casualties in disaster situations.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Accidentes químicos: aspectos relativos a la salud

Guía para la preparación y respuesta

1998, 140 p., ISBN 92 75 32254 6

Price: US\$ 22

Available only in Spanish

Three documents are included in this publication: the General Guidelines, which will assist in the development of effective policies for preparing and responding to chemical accidents; the Practical Guidelines, which are more detailed and meant for the operative sector; and the Final Summary, which has a checklist of essential measures for planning and carrying out prevention, preparedness, and response activities specific to chemical accidents.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/Spanish/PED/accidspa.htm



Radiación: antes, durante y después de las situaciones de emergencia radiológica

1999, 22 p., OPS/HEP/99/37

Price: US\$ 8

Available only in Spanish

This publication was originally published in English by WHO and has been translated and adapted for readers in Latin America and the Caribbean. It contains guidelines on developing the response capacity for radiation accidents in the Americas, and is especially tailored for local authorities. It is a useful reference for developing educational plans, preparedness measures, response plans, and mitigation programs for nuclear or radiation accidents.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net





A World Safe from Natural Disasters:

The Journey of Latin America and the Caribbean

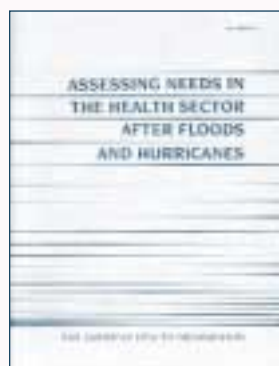
1994, 112 p., ISBN 92 75 12114 1

Price: US\$ 18

Available in English and Spanish

This book, published in 1994, in the middle of the United Nations International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, is an excellent review of the experiences and achievements made by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in reducing their vulnerability to natural disasters. It describes how nations moved from improvised to organized response activities in disaster situations, and discusses the development of national disaster management programs and their preparedness, prevention, and mitigation activities. Its aim is to remind national authorities, politicians and international organizations that modest but sustained investment in disaster reduction in the Region has saved and will continue to save lives.

On the Internet at : www.paho.org/english/ped/worldsafe.htm



Assessing Needs in the Health Sector after Floods and Hurricanes

Technical Report No. 11

1989, 72p., ISBN 92 75 13011 6

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

This publication provides a standard methodology for rapid needs assessment in the health sector following floods and hurricanes. It provides checklists of questions to be asked by teams assessing both immediate and long-term risks to populations facing slow-onset floods in the areas of communicable diseases, environmental sanitation, food and nutrition, and vector control. It also outlines steps to be taken by the assessment team in determining damage to health centers and evaluating the risk of disease in temporary shelters and settlements.

On the Internet at : www.helid.desastres.net

Huracán Mitch: Una mirada a algunas tendencias temáticas para la reducción de riesgo en América Central

En colaboración con EIRD

2000, 252 p., ISBN No 9968 822 01 9

Price: US\$ 10

Available only in Spanish

This collection of papers was written by different experts following the impact of Hurricane Mitch in Central America in October 1998. From regional and community perspectives, the authors describe how communities were organized, how they dealt with stress during the crisis, and how they participated in the daily process of making decisions on reducing further risk. The authors evaluate the role of international cooperation and of Central America's civil society in the process of rebuilding following the hurricane. This is another attempt to record lessons learned after this devastating disaster.

On the Internet at : www.helid.desastres.net



New

Establishing a Mass Casualty Management System

1996, 58 p.,

Price: US\$ 12

Available in English and Spanish

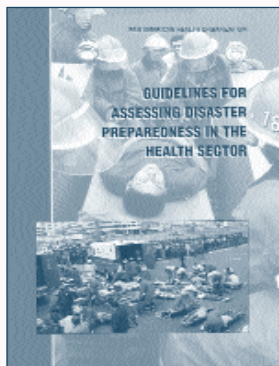
When an accident or disaster causes a large number of injuries, the first responders come from communities close to the accident site. During the past 20 years, Latin American and Caribbean countries have given special attention to training emergency personnel in triage and first aid, whether at the site of the disaster or accident or in hospitals. This publication outlines how to design a system for treating mass casualties in order to save as many lives as possible.

On the Internet at : www.helid.desastres.net





Other Publications



Guidelines for Evaluating Disaster Preparedness in the Health Sector

1995, 28p.,

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

These guidelines emphasize the most important aspects of preparing the health sector to respond in disaster situations. It provides a practical approach for developing evaluation standards, methods of measuring achievements, and technical recommendations for strengthening disaster preparedness and response programs.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Simulacros hospitalarios de emergencia

1995, 50 p.

Price: US\$ 8

Available only in Spanish

This guide is based on experiences gained in the preparation and execution of emergency simulations in various countries of Latin America. Its aim is to help prepare hospital administrators and health workers for emergencies and disaster situations. It addresses the theories behind emergency simulations and provides a simple model for developing these exercises, which can be adapted to individual hospitals or health centers.

On the Internet at: www.helid.desastres.net



Conclusions and Recommendations. Meeting on the Evaluation of Preparedness and Response to Hurricanes Georges and Mitch, 16-19 February 1999, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

1999, 39 p. , ISBN 92 75 12263 6

Price: US\$ 8

Available in English and Spanish

These recommendations and conclusions were based on discussions in more than 20 working sessions during the Meeting on the Evaluation of Preparedness and Response to Hurricanes Georges and Mitch. The participants discussed the most relevant aspects of national and international response to Hurricanes Georges and Mitch, which hit the Caribbean and Central America in 1998.

On the Internet at: www.paho.org/english/ped/concleng.htm





Health and Environment in Sustainable Development

2000, 283p., ISBN 92 75 31572 8 ; Order code: PC 572
Prices: US\$34.00 / US\$24.00 in Latin America and the Caribbean
Available in English and Spanish

This book was written as a contribution by the World Health Organization to the follow-up to the Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. It provides a current assessment of environmental hazards and their impact on health at local, national and global levels. The book offers a perspective on this topic in the context of social and economic development over a 40-year period—beginning in the 1970s with forecasts through the year 2010. The report is useful for policy-makers, community leaders, scientists and health professionals who are interested in development sectors such as agriculture, industry, environmental science, and planning, and the impact of the environment on health.



Guías para la calidad del agua potable

Available only in Spanish

Volumen 1. Recomendaciones. Segunda edición
1995, 195p., ISBN 92 4 354460 8 Order code: WHO 7
Prices: US\$45.00 / US\$35.00 in Latin America and the Caribbean

Vol. 2. Criterios relativos a la salud y otra información de base
1987, 362p., ISBN 92 75 31506 X, Código: PC 506
Price: US\$12.00

Vol. 3. Vigilancia y control de abastecimientos comunitarios
Segunda edición
1998, 255p., ISBN 92 4 354503 5, Código: WHO 8
Price: US\$75.00 / US\$55.00 in Latin America and the Caribbean

This edition of the WHO guidelines has been updated and revised to include new technical information. The first volume includes lists of water contaminants and guideline values for determining water quality. It also provides information on selecting appropriate methods for the treatment and control of water supplies.

The second volume expands on the recommended guideline values for safe drinking water presented in Volume 1, and includes health criteria for contaminants and other water components. It also presents information on detecting the presence of contaminants in water, and measures to control them. It reviews toxicologic, epidemiologic, and clinical evidence used in determining guidelines for safe drinking water

Volume 3 is a comprehensive guide to procedures and technical measures required to ensure the safety of drinking-water supplies in small communities and periurban areas of developing countries.

Organization, Development, Quality Assurance and Radiation Protection in Radiology Services : Imaging and Radiation Therapy

1997, 317p., ISBN 92 75 32236 8 , Order code: OT 108
Prices: US\$26.00 / US\$20.00 in Latin America and the Caribbean
Available in English and Spanish

This publication explores organizational and technical aspects of radiology, analyzed within the context of the Pan American Health Organization's strategic and programmatic orientations for 1995-1998. It seeks to strike a balance between basic principles of decentralized health services and the requirements that emerge as advances in medical knowledge are incorporated and applied in various areas of the health services. The appendices present examples of equipment specifications and legislation on practices and specialties, and provide information on technical aspects of quality assurance and radiation protection.



Rapid Health Assessment Protocols for Emergencies

1999, 107p., ISBN 92 4 354515 9
Order code: WHO 25
Prices: US\$19.00 / US\$13.00 in Latin America and the Caribbean
Available only in Spanish

The amount of damage caused by disasters can be reduced considerably if we are prepared and we respond rapidly when a disaster happens. Making a rapid assessment of health status and health needs is an essential first step in responding to disaster, and should be the responsibility of local health personnel. The protocols in this book can be used to train health workers who may be involved in emergency response so that they are able to provide the best possible assistance.

To obtain the English version of this book write to:
publications@who.ch



To obtain the four books described in this section, please contact the Publications Department of the Pan American Health Organization (sales@paho.org), or visit their on-line Bookstore at <http://publications.paho.org>





“Prevención, preparación y respuesta a desastres provocados por productos químicos” • 1999 edition

Available only in Spanish
Price: US\$ 30.00



This CD-ROM has an instructional approach to preventing, preparing for and responding to chemical accidents in Latin America and the Caribbean, using a combination of graphic presentations and text. It uses a Web-page format to present technical information and includes reference sections that will link the user to other valuable information sources on the Internet.

This material can also be consulted on the Internet at:

www.disaster.info.desastres.net/quimicos/

Disasters Newsletter: Preparedness and Mitigation in the Americas

2002 edition
Available in English and Spanish
Price: US\$ 30.00

This CD-ROM has the entire collection of newsletters published by the Emergency Preparedness Program at PAHO, beginning with the first issue published in January 1979, in both English and Spanish. The disk uses a simple, Web-page format and has search tools that facilitate access to any topic covered in the newsletter.



- All of the editorials or lead articles have been grouped together by title,
- and are included in a special section;
- Key words have been assigned to ease the search for topics.

The issues of the newsletter are available in two electronic formats: PDF and HTML.

This is a helpful tool for tracking the occurrence of natural disasters in the Region of the Americas over the past 20 years and will help to review how countries have prepared for and responded to these events.

Students and others interested in disasters can now consult all of this information in one place.

New

New and expanded version of the Virtual Health Library for Disasters

2001 Edition
Price: \$US 30

Available on CD-ROM and the Internet

The Virtual Library, which has been available free of charge on the Internet to anyone interested in the topic, has been produced on a CD-ROM to facilitate its use and availability. (More information on page 36.)



Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities

2001 Edition
Price : US\$ 40

Available in English and Spanish

This disk contains the main training materials—books and PowerPoint graphic presentations—that PAHO/WHO has published on disaster mitigation in health facilities. It is designed as a simple Web page and can be used with any personal computer (although we recommend at a minimum a Pentium 1 processor or the equivalent, with hard drive capacity of 40 Mb. (More information on page 9.)



SUMA

2001 Edition
Price : US\$ 30

Available in English and Spanish

This CD-ROM gathers all the components necessary to understand, apply, and teach SUMA, including:

- The latest SUMA software
- A section devoted to training materials
- An overview of SUMA

(More information on page 39.)





Prehospital Medical Care in Disasters

(31 slides; available in English and Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

These slides deal with mass casualty management at the site of a disaster. It covers the command post, transportation, communications and triage.



Hospital Care in Disaster Situations

(39 slides; available in English and Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

This slide set presents the main components of a hospital disaster plan. It outlines the steps that hospitals can take during the preparedness phase, the warning phase when the hospital plan is put into effect, and the emergency phase when disaster victims begin to arrive.



Disaster Reports: Earthquake in Mexico

(39 slides; available in English and Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

These slides record the devastating earthquake that hit Mexico in September 1985. They illustrate aspects of structural damage in health facilities, search and rescue operations, and the huge quantities of relief supplies that overwhelmed authorities after the earthquake.

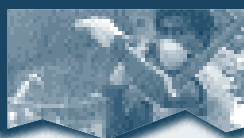


Manual for Bacteriologic Analysis of Water in Disaster Situations

(28 slides; available in English and Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

This demonstrates the membrane filter method using portable equipment as a means of detecting coliforms in water.



Each slide set comes with a teaching guide

Seguridad en hospitales

(44 slides; available only in Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

These slides illustrate safety measures for hospitals and health centers in disaster situations. The accompanying guide provides steps for developing a hospital safety plan and determining the areas that the plan should cover.



Terremotos y hospitales 1: efectos y medidas de emergencia

(29 slides; available only in Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

This slide program presents general information on the effects of earthquakes in terms of human and material losses and basic emergency procedures for hospitals in the event of a severe earthquake.



Terremotos y hospitales 2: reducción del riesgo

(28 slides; available only in Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

This program presents measures for mitigating seismic risk to hospitals and decreasing the overall vulnerability of these facilities.



Manejo de cadáveres en situación de desastre

(27 slides; available only in Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

This series addresses basic techniques for the transport, identification, temporary storage, and final disposal of cadavers in disaster situations.



Simulacros hospitalarios

(40 slides; available only in Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

These slides review the essential elements for developing emergency simulations in hospital settings.



Each slide set comes with a teaching guide

Mental Health Care in Disaster Situations

(34 slides; available in English and Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

Disasters generally cause some degree of psychosocial trauma in nearly all sectors of society. The psychological response in communities varies and changes with the passage of time. This slide set serves to make health professionals aware of certain expected patterns of emotional response in disaster situations in communities and measures that can be used to deal with them.

Risk and Resource Map: Organizing Communities to Prepare for Emergencies

(1994; 40 slides; available in English and Spanish)

Price: US\$ 25.00

These slides are aimed at helping community leaders or facilitators to increase the level of community preparedness in the face of hazards.

Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities

Price: US\$ 25.00

(1998; 42 slides; available in English and Spanish)

Structural Elements

These slides provide practical information about basic aspects of disaster mitigation in health facilities. Focusing on seismic hazards, the slides address risk reduction in structural components of health facilities (including load-bearing elements such as columns, beams, walls, and foundations).

(1999; 42 slides; available in English and Spanish)

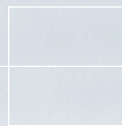
Non Structural Elements

The second part of this slide program addresses the mitigation of damage to nonstructural elements in health facilities. These include non-load-bearing and architectural features (such as partitions, windows, and false ceilings) as well as elements that are essential to the operation of a facility (communications, gas, water, and electricity), and all hospital equipment and supplies. Damage to any of these elements can have serious impacts on the ability of health facilities to function, and their vulnerability should be assessed when carrying out disaster mitigation plans.

These two slide sets are also available in electronic format on the Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities CD-ROM (see page 9).

Each slide set comes with a teaching guide.





New

Volcanoes and the Protection of Health

(2001; 36 minutes, available in English and Spanish)

This video combines images of volcanic eruptions, commentary by experts, technical and scientific information, and lessons learned in many emergencies. It uses an educational format to explain the main risks that volcanic eruptions have for health, and the basic planning measures that the health sector can and should take to reduce adverse health affects to vulnerable populations.

The video is divided into two distinct but complementary sections that can be viewed separately. **The first** section addresses the principle risks that volcanic eruptions pose to health. It dispels certain misconceptions about the effects that lava, rocks, or other debris expelled from the volcano can have on public health, and focuses on hazards that may be less spectacular but are much more dangerous to humans, such as pyroclastic flows or lahars that have been responsible for the majority of deaths associated with volcanic eruptions in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The second part of the video focuses on health sector preparedness and prevention plans and measures to minimize the damage caused by volcanic eruptions. The program emphasizes that plans should cover several possible scenarios, be realistic and flexible, and carried out with the participation of scientists and emergency response agencies.

The video has technical content and was prepared for health personnel who will be involved in preparedness and response.

The video includes a short teachers' guide.



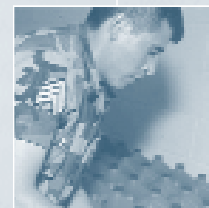
Myths and Realities of Natural Disasters

(26 minutes; available in English, Spanish, and French)

Myths have surrounded the occurrence of natural disaster phenomena since the beginnings of civilization. This video presents some popular beliefs in the context of some of the most devastating disasters to occur in the Region of the Americas. It emphasizes the importance of dispelling certain myths through education and understanding of actual events. The video examines the following misconceptions:

- Foreign medical volunteers with any kind of medical background are needed.
- Any kind of international assistance is needed, and it's needed now!
- Epidemics and plagues are inevitable after every disaster.
- Disasters bring out the worst in human behavior.
- The affected population is too shocked and helpless to take responsibility for their own survival.
- Disasters are random killers.
- Locating disaster victims in temporary settlements is the best alternative.
- Things are back to normal within a few weeks.

This video gives positive and realistic examples of what actually occurs in disaster situations, with the hope that these myths about disasters will no longer influence decision makers confronted with emergency situations.





Video Programs

Earthquake in Mexico

(24 minutes; available in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French)



This program documents health problems and response activities following the earthquake that devastated Mexico City on 18 September 1985. Thousands of people were killed, some 420 buildings collapsed and more than 50,000 homes were damaged. The video also focuses on the chaos resulting from the arrival of tons of unsolicited relief supplies that in most cases did not meet the actual needs of earthquake victims.

Volcanic Eruption of Nevado del Ruiz in Colombia

(15 minutes; available in English and Spanish)



On the night of 13 November 1985, the Nevado del Ruiz volcano, some 70 kms from Bogotá, began to erupt. Hot lava mixed with melting snow to create a massive mudslide that descended the sides of the volcano at a speed of 25 mph, burying the town of Armero. An estimated 20,000 persons died and 10,000 persons were made homeless. Rescue and evacuation of survivors had to be done by air; water and sewerage systems were completely destroyed; the supply of food, medicines, and drinking water required massive mobilization of the international community.

This video provides a record of the events and medical and health impacts of the disaster.

International Humanitarian Assistance

(15 minutes; available in English and Spanish)



This video examines positive and negative aspects of international humanitarian assistance provided to health care systems in countries affected by disasters.

Earthquake in El Salvador

(10 minutes; available in English and Spanish)



This short program provides a record of the impact of the earthquake—measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale—that hit San Salvador on 10 October 1986. More than 40 per cent of the health facilities suffered damage, hampering treatment of the disaster victims. At least 12,000 people died and half of the inhabitants of El Salvador's capital were left homeless. Government buildings were severely damaged which greatly affected both response and reconstruction activities in the country.

Humanitarian Fuel Assistance Program

(25 minutes; available in English and French)



During Haiti's political crisis in the 1990s, acquiring fuel was a major challenge faced by humanitarian organizations operating in the country. This video describes how PAHO and other agencies worked to transport and deliver fuel to these organizations.

www.paho.org/disasters

Disaster Mitigation in Health Facilities

1996 (15 minutes; available in English and Spanish)



This video demonstrates the enormous vulnerability to natural disasters—primarily earthquakes and hurricanes—faced by most countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. It documents advances made in carrying out mitigation measures in certain countries, and addresses how much has to be done to ensure that health facilities reduce their levels of vulnerability so that they continue to provide critical services after the impact of a hurricane or earthquake.

Facing Disasters in Smaller Countries

(19 minutes; available only in English)



This addresses the problems faced by the smallest countries when they are impacted by major natural disasters. The video uses Caribbean countries as an example of the importance of regional cooperation and solidarity when facing these challenges.

SUMA: Humanitarian Supply Management Project

1995 (13 minutes; available in English and Spanish)



This program introduces the Humanitarian Supply Management Project (SUMA), which was created by PAHO/WHO with the cooperation of experts from a variety of countries in the Region of the Americas, and the support of the Netherlands Government. SUMA assists national authorities to identify, classify and distribute humanitarian supplies in emergency situations, ensuring a more organized process that gets needed supplies to beneficiaries quickly. The video emphasizes the importance of developing a national cadre of professionals trained in humanitarian supply management methods before disaster strikes, and addresses the mobilization of international experts.

SUMA: Tool for Transparency and Credibility in Emergencies and Disasters

2000 (4 minutes; available in English and Spanish)



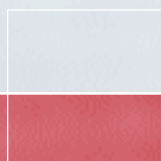
This short video shows difficulties created by the indiscriminate shipment of donations to disaster-affected countries, and the importance of having an information management tool such as SUMA. Besides its technical role, SUMA is a policy tool that can favor transparent and responsible management of donations, and as such provide an image of credibility and responsibility for authorities.

En la senda del huracán

1988 (15 minutes; available only in Spanish)



This video documents the impact of hurricanes Gilbert in October 1988 and Joan, a month later in Central America and the Caribbean. Gilbert's path cut across the Cayman Islands, Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica, and finally Mexico. More than 90 per cent of health facilities in Jamaica were damaged. Hurricane Joan hit Colombia, Costa Rica and Nicaragua a month later, causing major crises in these three countries.



Disasters Newsletter: Preparedness and Mitigation in the Americas



Published every three months in English and Spanish since 1979, this is PAHO's most important means of communicating with the international community about disasters. While there are many other ways to communicate today, such as through Web pages, electronic mail, discussion lists, the newsletter continues to fulfill its mission of disseminating information, and it has become a "classic" among professionals interested in emergencies, disasters or humanitarian assistance. More than 26,000 copies are distributed every three months worldwide. It can also be viewed on the Internet. (www.paho.org/disasters).

The editorial page looks at current issues that have technical or political importance to the disaster management community. There are sections on recent disasters or happenings in the Americas; news from PAHO/WHO and other organizations involved in disaster reduction; information on PAHO/WHO Member Countries; new publications; and a "selected bibliography" that focuses on recently published material on disasters.

Published for the first time in 1979, it is an excellent source of information on recent disasters in the Region, and the path countries are taking to reduce the impact of these disasters.

Now all issues of the newsletter (Nos. 1-85) are available on:

- Internet: www.helid.desastres.net
- CD-ROM (see page 24 of this catalog)



The most recent issues can be accessed at:
www.paho.org/disasters

For a free subscription to the newsletter, send a request to:
disaster-newsletter@paho.org





Virtual Health Library for Disasters 2001 Edition



A new edition, published in collaboration with WHO, with new and more extensive content, new contributors and new search options.

Complete text of more than 400 technical documents !

In 1999, PAHO/WHO produced the first edition of the Virtual Health Library for Disasters CD-ROM--the most complete electronic information tool for disaster reduction. The first edition has been substantially enlarged and enhanced.

What is new in the 2001 version?

The first and most important innovation is the number of participating organizations, which allows for **much broader content**. It is now a global collection, the result of input from the disaster and emergency programs of WHO and PAHO, all WHO technical divisions, other United Nations agencies such as the UNHCR, UNICEF, the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), the Red Cross movement (International Committee for the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies), the Sphere Project, nongovernmental organizations such as OXFAM, and national organizations such as Costa Rica's National Emergency Commission.

Thanks to support from these organizations, the Library contains **more than 400 scientific and technical documents** including the most important works published by these agencies on disasters and emergencies.

It also has an improved and **more powerful search engine**, which is simple to use, allowing searches by topics, country, keyword, title, publishing organization, or any other word.

All documents are available in **HTML**, and many are in **PDF** format.

Discover the large variety of topics related to emergencies and disasters.

Discover the large variety of topics related to emergencies and disasters

- Public health in emergencies and disasters: principles and guidelines
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Disaster mitigation
- Human rights and humanitarian legislation
- Health of refugees and displaced populations
- Environmental health and chemical products
- Communicable diseases
- Parasitic and vector-borne diseases
- Food and nutrition
- Reproductive health, child health and immunization
- Mental health
- Management of supplies and essential drugs
- Management of war-wounded and injuries

Available on CD-ROM and the Internet

In addition to being available on the Internet, free of charge worldwide, the collection is produced on CD-ROM to facilitate its use, especially in areas where access to the Internet is still limited. The CD-ROM is distributed primarily in developing countries through institutions, where a single copy can be used by many.

We want your opinion

This is an open and dynamic collection. It will be evaluated, duplicated and updated in the future. The best way to improve this collection is by receiving your opinion, so please send your comments to the addresses listed below.

If ordering from a country in the Americas, please write:

Emergency Preparedness Program

Pan American Health Organization

525 Twenty-third Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20037, U.S.A.

disaster-publications@paho.org • www.paho.org/disasters/

If ordering from elsewhere in the world, please contact:

Department of Emergency and Humanitarian Action

Sustainable Development and Healthy Environments

World Health Organization

20 Avenue Appia • CH 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

eha@who.ch • www.who.int/eha/disasters/

Visit the Library at:

www.helid.desastres.net



What is SUMA?

At the beginning of the 1990s, the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean joined efforts, with the support of PAHO, the Government of the Netherlands, and the Colombian Red Cross, to develop SUMA, the Humanitarian Supply Management System. SUMA is an information management tool which helps governments to improve management and ensure efficiency and transparency in the receipt and distribution of humanitarian assistance. SUMA also allows disaster managers to provide donors and humanitarian agencies with an accounting of supplies and other assistance that has been received.

What does SUMA do?

- Identifies, separates and classifies humanitarian supplies as they are received;
- Prioritizes supplies depending on the needs of the affected population;
- Uses a database to consolidate all the information on items received;
- Provides a clear overview on the whereabouts and destination of supplies;
- Facilitates the preparation of reports and the exchange of information among all actors (governments, NGOs, donors, etc.).

Who operates SUMA?

The SUMA Project trains national teams as a way of developing self-reliance, insuring that countries can manage humanitarian assistance with their own resources. The national teams are formed by volunteers from the ranks of health agencies, civil defense or emergency committees, armed forces, foreign relations ministries, customs departments, the Red Cross, NGOs, and other organizations. More than 2,000 volunteers have been trained in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

SUMA: Towards a global standard in humanitarian supply management

SUMA has been accepted in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean as the standard for managing relief supplies. With the sponsorship of the United Nations and coordination of the World Health Organization, SUMA is being exported to other parts of the world and it is hoped that it will become the global standard for managing emergency supplies in an emergency or disaster.

SUMA on CD ROM

With the rising popularity and low cost of CD-ROMs, PAHO has prepared a new disk on SUMA, which in addition to SUMA software, has a large range of reference and training materials.

Organized as a simple Web page (in HTML format), the bilingual (English/Spanish) CD-ROM contains:

- The latest version of SUMA **software**, in Windows and DOS versions, with operating instructions in English, Spanish and French;
- A section with the **training manuals** and "PowerPoint" presentations needed to conduct a training session on SUMA software and the Warehouse Management Module (MISE) program
- An overview of SUMA, including current reference material such as mission reports, a contact list, and a large selection of photographs showing humanitarian operations where SUMA was used.

This CD-ROM gathers all the necessary components for understanding, applying, and teaching SUMA methods. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the CD-ROM, contact CRID (see the CRID address on page 41).



For more information on SUMA, contact:

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or visit SUMA on the Internet:
www.disaster.info.desastres.net/SUMA/



Regional Disaster Information Center



The best source of information on disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean

CRID



Learn about CRID on the Internet: www.crid.or.cr



Disaster management is above all the management of information. The objective of the Regional Disaster Information Center is to assist the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to have the best possible access to information resources on disasters, helping users to make better management decisions.



CRID has the support of six organizations:

• Pan American Health Organization, Regional Office of the World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) • The United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) • National Emergency Commission of Costa Rica (CNE) • International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) • Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPRENAC) • Regional Emergency Office for Medecins sans Frontieres (MSF)



CRID's objectives are:

- To improve the collection, processing, and distribution of information about disasters;
- To strengthen local and national capacity to establish and maintain information centers on disasters;
- Promote the use of information technology;
- To support the development of the Region Disaster Information System.

CRID offers these services:

- Bibliographic searches using the Internet, CD-ROM or direct contact with the Center;
- Publication and distribution of bibliographies (BIBLIODES);
- Direct access to a large collection of documents available on the Internet;
- Publication and distribution of teaching materials about managing information centers, bibliographic methods, use of the Internet, and a thesaurus;
- Technical assistance and training for the creation of disaster information centers.

CRID promotes and supports the strengthening of a Regional Disaster Information System in Latin America and the Caribbean by providing technical support for national and local information centers, the development of common methods and tools, and the creation of common services.



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Regional Disaster Information Center



www.paho.org/disasters/

PAHO's main World Wide Web page on disasters offers a variety of information resources:

- Follow-up on the **latest disasters** to have occurred in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- **Technical guidelines** on public health issues in disaster situations, which recommend procedures related to donations, rapid needs assessments, sanitation in temporary shelters and camps, food safety, supply management, handling cadavers, and many other topics;
- The most important PAHO/WHO disaster **publicaciones** in full text, and access to the Health Library for Disasters (see page 36 of this catalog).
- Information on **SUMA** (the Humanitarian Supply Management System)
- Information about the international **LIDERES** course on health, disasters and development;
- Electronic access to the **Newsletter, Disasters: Preparedness and Mitigation in the Americas** (see page 34 of the catalog);
- **Tools** such as manuals, guidelines, and directories that are useful for disaster prevention, mitigation and response.

... And many other new items and resources.



www.paho.org/disasters/

www.disaster.info.desastres.net

This Web page links with a collection of Web sites with information on prevention, mitigation, and response to disasters in Latin America and the Caribbean. The site is maintained by PAHO/WHO, but each organization is responsible for its own content.



www.disaster.info.desastres.net/PED-ECUADOR/desastre/index.htm

The Web page for PAHO's disaster office serving South America. It provides current information on disasters in South America and includes sections on publications, legislation, courses, and special news.



www.disaster.info.desastres.net/desplazados.htm

This Web page focuses on displaced populations in Colombia. It includes publications, a directory of institutions working with these populations, statistics, maps, legislation pertaining to displaced populations, and links to other Internet sites on the topic.



www.disaster.info.desastres.net/saludca/desastresCR

This site describes the project sponsored by PAHO/WHO in Central America to reduce vulnerability to disasters in four countries—Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala—that were affected by Hurricane Mitch.



<http://www.disaster.info.desastres.net/andino/>

"Desastres en los Andes" is a Web page for all institutions and agencies working in disaster preparedness in Andean countries. It is maintained and updated by the PAHO Emergency Preparedness Programs office that serves South America.



We also recommend:

www.who.int/eha/disasters

Department of Emergency and Humanitarian Action of the World Health Organization

www.cepredenac.org

Coordination Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America

www.reliefweb.int

A project of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

www.cderra.org

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency

www.ifrc.org

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

For a more complete list of resources on the Internet, visit: www.crid.or.cr





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There are different ways to access the publications and other training materials listed in this catalog.

Owing to budgetary limitations and the high costs of distribution, there are restrictions on the free distribution of all of this material.

- The Regional Disaster Information Center (CRID) is able to distribute a limited number of copies of the material in this catalog at no charge to institutions in the health sector working in disaster reduction activities in Latin America and the Caribbean. The address for CRID is: Apartado Postal 3745-1000, San José, Costa Rica (see page 41).
- Most of this material can be consulted at the offices of the PAHO/WHO **Representatives** in the countries of the Region (see their addresses on pages 48-49) and the **subregional offices of the PAHO/WHO Emergency Preparedness Program** (addresses on page 50).
- Requests for publications from outside of Latin America and the Caribbean should be sent to the **PAHO Office of Publications**, or through their sales service on the Internet (<http://publications.paho.org/>). We request all sales agents and commercial entities to make their requests through this office. Please write:

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- Finally, remember that most of this material is available in electronic format at www.paho.org/disasters/. The books are included in the Virtual Health Library for Disasters (see page 36).
- Please send questions about the material in this catalog to:

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